

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 624
By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Thomas Allen Bryan and Jean Oliver Bryan on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 1956, in Lafayette, Georgia, Velma Jean Oliver and Thomas Allen Bryan were joined in holy matrimony, and since that fateful day this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; Mr. Bryan met his wife-to-be at Kingsboro Silk Mills, where he started working in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bryan worked as a shop foreman for Hartmann Luggage from 1958 until 1963, when he entered the insurance business with Transamerica; by this time, the Bryans had three children: Tommy Allen Bryan, Jr., born February 16, 1957; Robert Patton Bryan, born on April 14, 1958; and John Brian Bryan, born August 27, 1962; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, Mr. Bryan, Ike Stewart, and Jack Custer founded the Faith Rescue Mission as a temporary residence for the homeless; in 1965, Mr. Bryan was honored by the Lebanon Jaycees with the Young Man of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bryan bought into a local insurance agency with J.B. Leeth in 1965, naming it All-Sure Insurance; within four years, Mr. Bryan bought out Mr. Leeth, purchased the old Martha Gaston Hospital building, which he remodeled into a business office building, and housed his insurance agency and other rental offices; and

WHEREAS, when the need arose for a location for disabled men to live, the third floor of Mr. Bryan's office building was used, growing into Cedarcroft of Lebanon, which was founded in

1974; the business was later converted into a non-profit 501-C3 corporation, Cedarcroft Home, Inc., which is licensed by the State of Tennessee for forty-eight beds in the main building; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan have been highly respected citizens of their Lebanon community for many years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan are devout and active members of First Baptist Church in Lebanon, where both are former Sunday School teachers, and Mr. Bryan serves as deacon; Mr. Bryan also teaches a Sunday School class at Cedars Nursing Home each Sunday morning; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bryan has been an active member of the Laureate RHO Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, a local sorority, since 1977, and she is a longtime volunteer at McFarland Hospital, where Mr. Bryan has served on the Board of Directors; Mr. Bryan is also a past president of the Kiwanis Club of Lebanon and has served on the board of directors of the local civic club; and

WHEREAS, during this fine couple's praiseworthy marriage, the Bryans have continued to be devoted to each other, to their children, and to their grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, over the years, they have welcomed into the family their wonderful daughters-in-law and six grandchildren: Bobbie Kay Bryan married Tommy, and they have two sons, Taylor and Thomas; Sandra Bryan married Robert, and their son is named Steven; and Kimberly Annette Bryan married John, and they have two daughters, Megan and Mallory, and one son, John Ross; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years, this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Bryans' are truly the rock-solid foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Allen Bryan on

the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.